

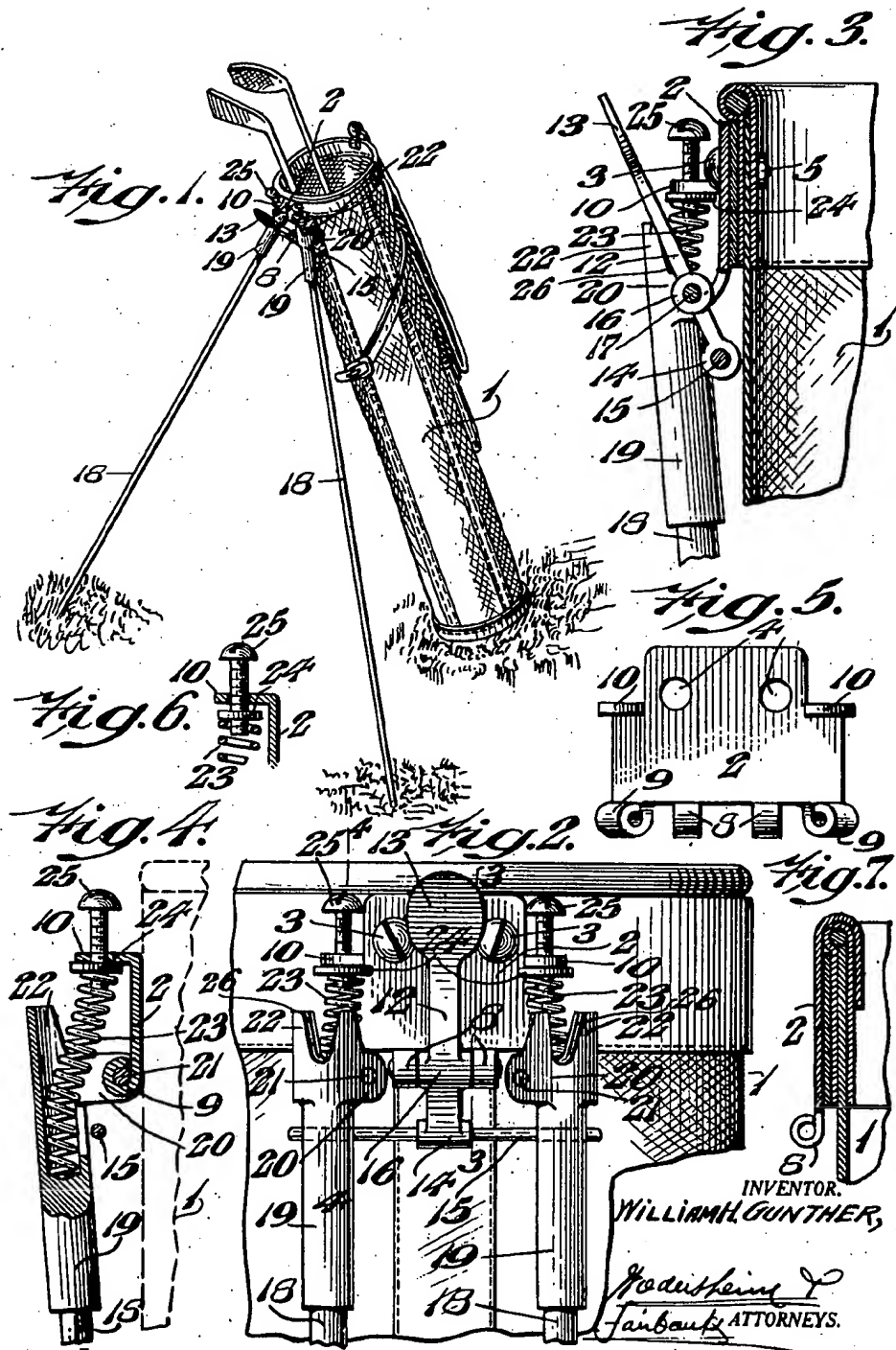
Dec. 3, 1929.

W. H. GUNTHER

1,738,242

GOLF BAG SUPPORT

Filed July 28, 1928



## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

WILLIAM H. GUNTHER, OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

## GOLF-BAG SUPPORT

Application filed July 28, 1928. Serial No. 295,928.

My invention relates to a new and useful golf bag support which is particularly adapted for use on the links to maintain the bag in a substantially upright position while the golfer is making each shot, and thereby to facilitate the exchange and replacement of, and the general access to the clubs contained in the bag.

It has been the practice heretofore, in the absence of a caddy, to throw or lay the bag down on the ground prior to making a shot, and when it was desired to exchange or replace a club, it was necessary to stoop or bend down to pick up the bag and hold it up while the exchange is being effected.

To obviate these disadvantages, I have devised a novel golf bag support, which will maintain the golf bag in an upright position while the golfer is playing, and one which will automatically fold up against or parallel to the bag, while the latter is being transported over the course after each shot.

My invention further relates to a novel support of this character, which functions practicably and effectively without regard to the surface or topography of the turf on which the bag is supported.

My invention further relates to a novel golf bag support which is of an extremely simple, durable and inexpensive construction, and which requires no skill or effort in its manipulation.

My invention further relates to a novel support which may be detachably or permanently attached to a golf bag, and which can be manufactured and sold independently of the golf bag proper.

To the above ends, my invention consists of a plate secured to the upper, outer edge of the bag, two legs hinged to the bottom of said plate, tension means for retaining said legs parallel with and close to the body of the bag when the device is not in use, and manually operated means for distending said legs to form a tripod support with and for said bag, when the latter is in a substantially upright position.

For the purpose of illustrating my invention, I have shown one form thereof which is at present preferred by me since it will give

in practice satisfactory and reliable results, although it is to be understood that the various instrumentalities of which my invention consists may be variously arranged and organized and that my invention is not limited to the precise arrangement and organization of these instrumentalities as herein shown and described.

In the accompanying drawings,

Fig. 1 represents a perspective view of a golf bag equipped with the novel support embodying my invention.

Fig. 2 represents on an enlarged scale, a side elevation of the upper portion of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 represents a section on line 3—3 of Fig. 2 certain parts being shown in elevation.

Fig. 4 represents a section on line 4—4 of Fig. 2 certain parts being shown in elevation.

Fig. 5 represents a side elevation of the upper supporting plate forming part of my invention, shown detached.

Fig. 6 represents a fragmentary sectional view, similar to that shown in Fig. 4 showing a modified form of my invention.

Fig. 7 represents a fragmentary sectional view similar to that shown in Fig. 3, showing a modified form of my invention.

Referring to the drawings, in which like reference characters designate like parts, 1 designates a golf bag of any conventional construction, to the upper, outer end of which is secured the supporting plate 2 by the screws 3, passing through the holes 4 and engaged by the nuts 5, it being understood that the manner of securing the plate 2 to the upper, outer edge of the bag 1 is entirely optional.

The plate 2 is provided with the central, bottom hinges 8 and the bottom, slightly offset end hinges 9, all of which are preferably formed integral therewith, as will be best understood from Fig. 5. The plate 2 is further provided with the upper, apertured lugs 10 hereinafter referred to. 12 designates a lever having the upper thumb piece 13 and the bottom boss 14 through which passes the transverse bar or pin 15. The lever 12 is hinged or fulcrumed to the plate 2 by the pin 17 which passes through the boss 16 and the hinges 8 as will be clearly seen from Figs. 2, 3 and 4. 18 designates two legs which are

shorter than the bag 1 and which are provided with the upper enlarged portions 19 which have the inwardly extending apertured lugs 20 which are hinged or pivoted to the end hinges 9 of the plate 2 by the pins 21, best seen in Figs. 2, 3 and 4. The upper enlarged portions 19 of the legs 18 are provided with the upper seats 22 in which seat the lower portions of the springs 23, the upper ends of which abut against the washers 24 on the underside of the upper lugs 10. The upper ends of the springs 23 are held in position by the screws 25 passing through the lugs 10, or their equivalent. The seats 22 are provided with the upper recesses or slots 26 which permit the lower ends of the legs 18 to be deflected outwardly when the lever 12 is actuated, by affording the requisite amount of play for the upper portions of the springs 23 when the latter are compressed by the manipulation of the lever 12 and its adjuncts.

The operation is as follows: If, when the device is in the normal, inoperative position, that is, with the legs 18 folded close up against and parallel with the body of the bag 1, the thumb piece 13 of the lever 12 is pressed inwardly towards the top of the bag, the lower end of the lever 12, carrying the transverse pin 15 is pressed outwardly against the upper portions 19 of the legs 18, thus deflecting the latter, against the tension of the springs 23, into the positions shown in Fig. 1. In this position the bag 1 is maintained in a slightly inclined or substantially upright position. When the bag is lifted from the ground, the tension of the springs 23 compressed by the extension of the legs 18, will automatically retract the legs 18 into their normal position, close to, and parallel with the body of the bag 1, as will be seen from Fig. 3. The legs 18, cooperating with bag 1, form a tripod support which is stable, and which when not in use does not occupy any additional space or appreciably add to the weight or size of the bag. It is further evident that my novel support needs no special skill in installation or manipulation, since by merely positioning the bag on the ground and pressing inwardly upon the thumb piece 13, the legs 18 are instantly and automatically distended into their operative position seen in Fig. 1, said legs being also automatically and instantly withdrawn into their normal, inoperative and out of the way position against the body of the bag 1, by the action of the springs 23 which are released by lifting the bag from the ground.

It is also apparent that my novel support is a separate and independent article which can be applied to golf bags now in use or which can be specified as standard equipment on bags manufactured in the future. Due to the simplicity and durability of my novel support, it will outlive a bag to which it is applied and can in that event be detached and

applied to a new bag unequipped with a support.

In Fig. 6 I have shown a modified form of my invention, wherein the washers 24 are rigidly secured to the lower portion of the screws 25, so that by manipulating the latter, the tension of the springs 23 may be regulated and adjusted, it being understood that the screws 25 are threaded in the lugs 10 and that the upper ends of the springs 23 bear against the washers 24 as shown in Figs. 4 and 6.

In Fig. 7 I have shown a modified form of my invention wherein I employ a supporting plate 2 of a U shaped formation which may be clamped onto the upper edge of the bag 1 and secured thereto without the necessity of drilling holes and without the use of the screws 3 or any other fastening means, thus rendering my novel support more easily and completely detachable.

I am aware that my invention may be embodied in other specific forms without departing from the spirit or essential attributes thereof, and I therefore desire the present embodiment to be considered in all respects as illustrative and not restrictive, reference being had to the appended claims rather than to the foregoing description to indicate the scope of the invention.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. In a device of the character stated, a plurality of legs adapted to be hinged to a golf bag, springs bearing upon the upper ends of said legs, a lever fulcrumed between said legs and a transverse pin carried by said lever below the fulcrum thereof, and bearing upon the upper, inner portions of said legs to actuate the latter.

2. In a device of the character stated, a plurality of legs adapted to be hinged to the upper portion of a golf bag, seats in the upper ends of said legs, springs having their lower ends positioned in said seats and their upper ends abutting against fixed points, a lever fulcrumed between said legs and a transverse pin carried by said lever below the fulcrum thereof, and bearing upon the upper inner, portions of said legs to actuate the latter, the upper ends of said spring seats being recessed to permit the lower ends of said legs to be actuated outwardly upon the actuation of said lever.

3. In a device of the character stated, a supporting plate adapted to be secured to the upper portion of a golf bag, a plurality of legs hinged to said plate, tensioning devices for normally maintaining said legs folded against and parallel to the body of said bag and means for actuating said legs into angular position with respect to said bag and against the force of said tensioning devices, said means comprising a lever fulcrumed between said legs and carrying a lower trans-

verse pin bearing against the inner, upper portion of said legs to actuate the latter.

4. In a device of the character stated, a supporting plate adapted to be secured to the outer, upper edge of a golf bag, a plurality of legs hinged to said plate, tensioning devices for normally maintaining said legs folded against and parallel to said bag, and a lever fulcrumed to said plate and carrying a lower transverse pin for actuating said legs into angular positions with respect to said bag against the force of said tensioning means, said legs being shorter than said bag.

WILLIAM H. GUNTHER.

15

20

25

30

35

40

45

50

55

60

65